SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I will try to meet his points. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : He has already rolled up his sleeves! He is coming with rolled up sleeves! . . .*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : After all, he is an Army man!

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I said, the manufacturing of the chemical weapons did not start after I became the Prime Minister. This was there when my hon. friend was also a Minister. . .*(Interruptions)* This was there when many of us occupied positions here. That is one point.

I stand by the policy that successive Governments have followed. That policy was and continues to be that weapons of mass destruction need not be deployed at this stage of our defence preparedness. That is why, in our country, I think for good reasons, Governments including their own Government have not handed over weapons of this type to the Army. I stand by that because I do not think that it would be a good policy for India to go on doing it at a level where civil control is not complete, particularly on weapons of this type. I can understand his difficulties and concerns because I appreciate those concerns. I am not differing with him. But, at this stage, my perception is that that stage has not come and when it comes, it does.

For instance, Prithvi has been deployed to an extent that Army exercises are going on; the Army knows how to use it. We have done it at a particular stage.

About Agni, a statement has been made. We have come to a stage when re-entry is possible; we have come to a stage when we are expanding its range. But that stage has not come when we should militarise it.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me give a chance to an hon. Member who has no background of the defence services, Shri George Fernandes.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Prime Minister has repeatedly stated that we are capable of facing any situation. I would like to know from the Prime Minister that while Pakistan is getting weapons from China, Whether his thinking is limited to this extent that Pakistan is the only purchaser of weapons from China and gets arms from China only? The intention of China towards India, is clear to us in many spheres. When he is answering this question today, the length of 11 military airports in Tibet are being increased. The new Sukhoi aircraft which they have purchased will be operated therefrom and for which destination they will use those aircraft from Tibet ? Since it is said that they can fly back those aircraft after reaching Rameswaram, so the viewpoint of China, is clear from this instance.

Recently in the first week of April, Chief Minister of one of our state got a invitation to attend a conference in China. He was asked to get the visa and 'simple visa' word was used in an English letter. That Chief Minister went to the Chinese Embassy. There he was told to come next day and when he went there he was told that he will not get a visa. . .*(Interruptions)* I am coming to the question. Because these things are the basis of that question. . .*(Interruptions)* Second day when he went there he was told that his invitation stands withdrawn. He asked as to how it is withdraw. Thereupon, he was told that visa is not necessary for him. He can go there. Because he was the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh and China considers that state as part of its territory. In view of import of arms by Pakistan in the present situation, I would like to know as to whether these arms are essential for the defence of Pakistan. In his reply the hon. Prime Minister has mentioned that Pakistan is receiving more arms than they actually require. In this context, I would like to know whether this matter is not linked with the great design China has over us. It has been mentioned here time and again that we are ready to face the challenge. What measures have been taken to counter this challenge?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : My hon. friend, Shri George Fernandes has very often discussed this situation both in private and in public about India's relations with China, particularly with reference to the area that he has referred to. The main question is not what China's policy is, but it is the question of what India's policy is. India's policy is to try to preserve peace, if possible. But we are ready for the worst. That is what we are working for. We do not want to be offensive. We do not want to use aggressive language. But I can assure my hon. friend that ever since he was in the Government things have changed a lot. Therefore, I can assure him that all the Governments that have come in office have been conscious of this responsibility and we will discharge it, if ever, God forbid, the situation arises.

Training Institutes

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*204. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRIMATI BHAWNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vocational Training Institutes functioning in different parts of the country particularly in

Gujarat and the assistance provided during the last three years to these institutions;

(b) whether there is a demands for setting up more Regional Vocational Training Institutes in different State particularly in Gujarat.;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the decision taken by the Government and communicated to the State Governments in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Vocational training is provided through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) which are established and managed by the concerned State Governments. As on 31.07.1996, there were a total of 3083 ITIs of which 201 are in Gujarat. Government of India does not provide financial assistance for setting up these ITIs. However, financial assistance for setting up ITIs for women is being given to the States under the World Bank assisted Vocational Training Project. Under this project financial assistance for establishment of four such ITIs is being provided to the State of Gujarat. The year-wise expenditure during the last three years under the World Bank Project for establishing new ITIs for women and for modernising a total of 565 existing ITIs, 50% of which is given by way of Central assistance, is indicated below:-

1.	1994-95	Rs. 5196.007 lakh
2.	1995-96	Rs. 5310.655 lakh
3.	1996-97	Rs. 6085.840 lakh

The corresponding figures for Gujarat are as follows:-

1.	1994-95	Rs. 194.880 lakh
2.	1995-96	Rs. 313.654 lakh
3.	1996-97	Rs. 337.447 lakh

In addition, Regional Vocational Training Institutes for Women are established and run by the Central Government through the Directorate General of Employment & Training. At present a total of ten such Regional Vocational Training Institutes, including one in Gujarat and one National Vocational Training Institute, have been established.

(b) Demands for setting up three more Regional Vocational Training Institutes for Women, have been received from State Governments of Orissa, Bihar and Punjab.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): Setting up of these Institutes depends on availability of funds during the Ninth Plan and therefore, at present no view with respect to these proposals has been taken.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question relates to an important subject and it directly relates to crores of educated, semi-educated unemployed youth. The Union Government has shifted its responsibility to State Governments. The main reason for unemployment in the country is that even today we are following the education system of Macaulay and as a result of it the educated youth try to get Governmental jobs after completing their education. They do not have another avenues for them whereas the Government have only limited number of jobs for them. This question directly relates to the future of the country. Now the Government have tried to shift its responsibility to I.T.Is. under the State Governments. Though the Government is concerned over the issue of imparting vocational education to youth but I would like to know whether in place of replying on ITIs only the Government propose to set up more institutions for imparting vocational education in the country?

[English]

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Sir, I fully share the feelings of the hon. Member. The training programmes are run by the ITIs and the ITIs are run by the State Governments. We do not aid or fund the ITIs. We have a curriculum and a Broad scheme of things in ITIs. We have given them someone infrastructure facilities under the world bank & project. So, there are a very few Centrally-funded institutions. The ratio between private and State sponsored ITI is 2:1 and there are about one thousand institutions which are run by the State Governments.

Then, regarding the role of the Central Government, there are Centrally funded institutions. There are ten RVTIs for women. Another scheme is run with the assistance of the world Bank. We receive assistance from the World Bank. Twenty-three per cent of that fund is used for Centrally-funded institutions and 77 per cent is used for the institutions run by the States on 50:50 basis. Probably it is inadequate. We understand the enormity of the problem. Infrastructure deficiencies are there. I hope the Ninth Five Year Plan will give more thrust on these issues. We will try to find out what could be done.

The hon. Member mentioned that imparting training skills is necessary. This is what essentially the ITIs and other Centrally-funded institutions are doing. They are

imparting training on engineering and non-engineering skills. We do have a scheme especially for women. When the ITIs were affiliated to NVTIs, they are running efficiently.

Though it is inadequate, the system is functioning. That is all I can say.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You must have got complete reply to your question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : The rest is in the papers. We impart vocational training through I.T.I. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the second question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : My question relates to the Government's policy for providing employment to youth. Every time announcement is made that ten lakh youth will be given employment in one year. This was highlighted in the Congress Budget of 1991. So far I have not received the reply to my question regarding that. .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the second question otherwise time will be over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : My second question is *(Interruptions)*

[English]

My second supplementary is very specific.

[Translation]

Several Public Sector Undertakings are being closed due to the new Industrial policy and lakhs of workers are being rendered jobless. The Ministry of Labour is making arrangements for imparting training to those workers at a slow pace. With financial assistance from N.R.F., some of them are sent to get vocational training and they are given forty rupees. I would like to know whether the Government propose to set up vocational training centres throughout the country especially for the workers of Public Sector Undertakings who had been rendered jobless. . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Generally speaking, I can say only this much.

Rate of growth of labour force entering the market is 2.5 while rate of growth of population per annum is 2.1 percent. This means that more people are entering the job market every year than that what the market is capable of absorbing this results in unemployment.

It is true that we will have to give them more training and equip them for the jobs. But the concern of the Labour Ministry alone would not solve the problem. It is a nodal agency as you all know. It is the concern of the whole Government and the nation; and it is not the concern of the Labour Ministry alone. Whatever we could do within our parameters, we are doing.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, the specific question asked by him is this. Do you have any programme to retrain the workers who lose their jobs in the public sector undertakings due to retrenchment or voluntary retirement so that they get an alternative employment? I think, this is the specific question which he has asked.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : We have some schemes. . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : What are those schemes? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister would inform you separately about those schemes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, he has stated that there are some ITIs for the tribal youth. One such proposal has come from the State of West Bengal for the district of Purulia. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what has happened to that proposal to open an ITI for the tribal youth?

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : I will collect the details and inform the hon. Member since I do not have the details now.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, there are very a few opportunities for women in ITIs. I want to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, whether he would make a special attempt, either with the internal help or with the help from outside, at least to see that every State has one ITI specially for women, to begin with? . . .*(Interruptions)* ITIs are for all; they should give training to women also.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : We have ten Centres of Regional Vocational Training for Women alone. Anyway, I will look into it.